

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany

SECURITY INFORMATION
REPORT NO.

TOPIC Koethen Airfield

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1A

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 14 July 1963

REFERENCES

PAGES 2

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 1 - one envelope containing two tin foils

REMARKS

25X1 SOURCE

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1. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at Koethen airfield between [redacted]

[redacted] There was no flying at the field during the day or night although the weather was clear. No aircraft were observed at the field around noon.

[redacted] fitted with auxiliary fuel tanks was seen aloft for about 20 minutes. [redacted] there was night flying by swept-back jet fighters and had the usual position lights.

[redacted] took off, individually, soon disappeared in the clouds and landed individually after about 25 minutes. There was a closed ceiling at an altitude of 400 to 500 meters.

[redacted] swept-back jet fighters, [redacted] practiced flying. There was night flying by swept-back jet fighters [redacted]

[redacted] 3 Po-2s made flights of about 30 minutes. There was a 9/10 overcast at an altitude of 500 meters. [redacted] single-engine monoplanes were observed flying.

[redacted] There was no air activity during the day or night. The sky was 6/10 overcast.

[redacted] Po-2s made local flights. There was a 6/10 overcast and it rained occasionally.

2. [redacted] 4 and 5 gondola cars respectively with sand were unloaded at the southeastern corner of the field, behind the shrapnel-proof aircraft revetments. [redacted] 4 railroad tank cars were observed at the fuel dump.

3. [redacted]
[redacted] 13 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15 planes were observed at the runway. They practiced flying sometimes at larger intervals. Six swept-

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-back jet fighters were seen in the area of the hangars.¹

5. The radio installation with four masts was moved from its location 1 km north of the runway to a place 3 km east of the field between Gross-Badegast and Pfriemsdorf.²

6. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at the field

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[redacted] swept-back jet fighters [redacted] practiced flying. The weather was dull with a scattered cloud base and intermittent rain showers.

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[redacted] individual flights were made in rainy and cold weather.

[redacted] Two individual planes took off [redacted] Eight MiG-15s were parked in front of the hangars.

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[redacted] No planes were seen at the field. The doors of the hangars were closed. About 30 farmers' vehicles were observed at the landing field, where the grass had been mowed by farmers.

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[redacted] there was intensive air activity [redacted] Night flying was conducted.

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7. [redacted] work was under way at the shrapnel-proof aircraft revetments in the southwestern corner of the field. Unloading work was being done at the spur track near and opening in the fence. [redacted] 11 shrapnel-proof aircraft revetments were counted at the field, others were under construction.

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[redacted] tin foils which had been dropped recently were found at the edge of Koethen.³

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10.

[redacted] 24 swept-back jet fighters, including 8 of which were aloft, were counted at the field. Two radar sets at the field and two radio trucks with rod antennas at the take-off point were observed. Shrapnel-proof aircraft revetments were under construction.⁴

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[redacted] Comment. According to available information, two fighter regiments are stationed at Koethen airfield. As at other airfields in East Germany, training in night flying was being stressed at Koethen.

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[redacted] Comment. For tin foils, see Annex. It cannot be determined if they were used by aircraft.

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